

**Economic and Social Council**

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High-level political forum on sustainable development

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Reports of the regional forums on sustainable development**Note by the Secretariat**

1. The participants in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012 recognized how regional frameworks could complement and facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level. They emphasized that regional and subregional organizations, including the regional commissions and their subregional offices, played a significant role in promoting the balanced integration and operationalization of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in their respective regions.
2. In July 2013, the General Assembly adopted resolution 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development. Pursuant to the resolution, Member States continued to acknowledge the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development. They invited the regional commissions to contribute to the work of the forum, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders as appropriate.
3. Similarly, the value of follow-up and review at the regional and subregional levels was recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with Member States encouraged to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage so that such forums could contribute to the global follow-up and review, including at the high-level political forum.
4. In response to the above-mentioned mandates, the regional commissions, in collaboration with their partners, including the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, have been building on the regional implementation meetings organized in the context of the Commission on Sustainable Development, holding regional forums on sustainable development or initiating consultative processes for their establishment.¹

¹ The input to the 2015 session of the high-level political forum is available from <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2015#regional>.



5. Five forums were, or are to be, held in 2016. Their dates, locations and the symbols of their reports are as follows:

- (a) Asia-Pacific region, Bangkok, 3-5 April (E/HLPF/2016/3/Add.1);
 - (b) Economic Commission for Europe region, Geneva, 10 May (E/HLPF/2016/3/Add.2);
 - (c) Africa region, Cairo, 17-19 May (E/HLPF/2016/3/Add.3);
 - (d) Latin America and the Caribbean region, Mexico City, 23-27 May (E/HLPF/2016/3/Add.4);
 - (e) Arab region, Amman, 29 and 30 May (E/HLPF/2016/3/Add.5).
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